

CLASSIFICATION

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SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

COUNTRY Approved For Release 2002/08/14 : CIA-RDP82-00457R016100120004-0
East Germany

REPORT NO.

25X1A

TOPIC Bernauchen AirfieldEVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT 15 October to 19 November 1952

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

17 December 1952

REFERENCES

25X1A

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) - one sketch on ditto

REMARKS

SOURCE

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1. The following observations were made at the field between 29 October and 19 November:

29 October. There was air activity by IL-28s. The weather was hazy and the sky was almost completely overcast, the cloud base being at an altitude of about 900 meters. After the take-off, the planes disappeared in the clouds.

1 to 8 November. Usually, there was rainy weather. A few flights were made on 3 and 4 November.

8 to 10 November. There was no air activity during poor visibility.

11 November. Four take-offs were made by jet bombers which remained aloft for about 45 minutes. The visibility was good.

12 November. There was air activity by IL-28s, including one towing a sleeve target. This airborne target was attacked by the other jet bombers which approached from various sides. The weather was good.

13 to 19 November. There was no air activity during bad weather.

2. Recently, eight 76.2-mm AA guns were observed in the AA gun emplacement south-east of the railroad crossing. At the side, there were six 37-mm AA guns parked in a line. There was a dug-out for the crew of the 76.2-mm AA guns and an open shed for the 14 trucks which were assigned to the AA unit.

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3. Since about mid-October, discipline among the Soviet soldiers in Orneuchen has become worse. Civilians, particularly women, were often molested. It frequently occurred that Soviet soldiers shot into the windows of private homes at night.

4. Between 3 and 7 November, a portion of the ground personnel was assigned to do construction work on the shrapnel-proof aircraft revetments at the field.

5. Source could not determine the purpose of the sheet metal markings which were erected on both sides of the runway 100 meters from the edges of the runway. The space surrounded by these markings was previously graded and rolled.

6. During the period of observation, the compasses of IL-28 planes were being compensated, and the aircraft weapons were being zeroed in. Maintenance work was also in progress on the planes. It was not observed that jet engines were being exchanged.

7. Between 1 and 5 p.m. on 3 November, there was no air activity at the field. The visibility was poor. Between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m. on 4 November, an MIL-28 and two IL-28s practiced flying while the runway lights were switched on. The weather was hazy. On 6, 7, and 8 November, there was no air activity at the field during rainy weather.

8. On the afternoon of 3, 4 and 5 November, the twin machine gun mounted in the tail gun position of a jet bomber was being zeroed in in the gun firing pit.

9. Shrapnel-proof aircraft revetments were to be constructed around the hardstands. A total of 756 plates, each 1.4 meters long, 53 cm wide, 8 cm thick and with a weight of 180 pounds, were required for each hardstand. The ratio of mixture was 1:3. Source furnished a sketch of the plates.

10. The new fuel dump in the southwestern corner of the field was to hold 40 containers. Four holes side by side, each 20 meters wide, 15 meters long and 3 meters deep, had been excavated. Each hole was large enough for 12 containers and provided with 24 concrete pedestals, two for each container. There were 24 containers, each 5 meters long and 2.2 meters in diameter, at the side of the holes. Before the containers could be installed, the concrete pedestals had to be changed because they were built for containers which were 2.5 meters in diameter instead of 2.2 meters.

11.

12. Documents found near an gun emplacement II included an envelope and a slip of paper containing a note of Lieutenant Kuznetsov (IAU), commanding officer of an IA unit, with a request for an allotment of window panes, nails, cardboard etc. addressed to the chief of staff.

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1. [] Comment. This information supplements and corrects previous statements on the AA gun emplacement southeast of the railroad crossing. It was previously reported that 85-mm AA guns were emplaced there.

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2. [] Comment. According to a previous report, household equipment was bought by soldiers who were believed to have newly arrived at the field. [] This assumption of an exchange of personnel is also indicated by the information that the soldiers displayed poor discipline.

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3. [] Comment. The construction of shrapnel-proof aircraft revetments is being accelerated in Wenneuchen as at most of the other airfields in East Germany. For sketch of concrete plates, see annex 1.

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4. [] Comment. It is believed that the sheet metal markers are to mark the edges of the runway.

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5. [] Comment. Source who observed that the jet engines of about 20 IL-28s were being exchanged in the last third of October was instructed to report further exchanges of jet engines. []

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6. [] Comment. Improvement work on the fuel dump in the southeastern corner of the field was previously reported several times.

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9. [] Comment. Air activity at Wenneuchen airfield was discontinued when the cloud base was too low. Instrument flying was performed in bad weather which permitted a vertical view of several hundred meters while the horizontal view was limited to a small distance.

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Concrete Plates for Shrapnelproof Aircraft Revetments
at Werneuchen Airfield

One side of plate with
3 sunk-in fields, each 5 cm thick

Other side of plate

